

Message Text

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13

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSC-01 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SAM-01 SS-20

RSC-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04 USIA-15

PRS-01 AID-20 EB-11 OMB-01 SCI-06 CEQ-02 EPA-04 CU-04

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R 060551Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0370

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANGKOK 2003

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, TH, EIND

SUBJ: REPORTED RESIGNATION OF MINISTER OF INDUSTRY

1. UNCLASSIFIED. PRESS REPORTED MORNING OF FEBRUARY 5 THAT MINISTER OF INDUSTRY OSOT KOSIN AND HIS DEPUTY HAD SUBMITTED RESIGNATION TO CABINET BECAUSE OF PUBLIC DIS-SATISFACTION OVER MISHANDLING OF POLLUTION ISSUE, IN PARTICULAR RELEASE OF WASTE LIQUIDS FROM SUGAR CANE MILLS DIRECTLY INTO MAE KLONG RIVER. PARTICULAR ISSUE THAT REPORTEDLY PRECIPITATED HIS LETTER OF RESIGNATION WAS BURSTING OF AN EARTHEN DAM THAT IMPOUNDED WASTE LIQUIDS FROM ONE MILL. BANGKOK WORLD OF FEBRUARY 5 STATED THAT REPORT OF RESIGNATION WAS ERRONEOUS, ACCORDING TO RTG PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT, EVEN THOUGH RADIO THAILAND HAD BROADCAST RESIGNATION ANNOUNCEMENT NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 4. PRESS REPORTED FEBRUARY 6 THAT MINISTER'S LETTER OR RESIGNATION WAS REFUSED BY PM. END UNCLASSIFIED.

2. LIMITED OFFICIAL USE. COMMENT: MINISTER OF INDUSTRY TOLD ECON/CML. COUNSELOR NIGHT OF FEBRUARY 4 THAT HE HAD SUBMITTED LETTER OF RESIGNATION TO PM THAT DAY BECAUSE OF CRITICISMS DIRECTED AT HIM BY STUDENTS FOR HIS HANDLING THE POLLUTION ISSUE, IN PARTICULAR THE BURSTING OF THE
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DAM THAT RELEASED WASTE LIQUID DIRECTLY INTO THE RIVER.

SAID HE HAD PERSONALLY INSPECTED THE RIVER AFTER THE ACCIDENT AND HAD FOUND THE WATER TO BE CLEAR AGAIN. ALSO INDICATED THAT HE HAD TAKEN A FIRM POSITION IN ENFORCING ANTI-POLLUTION REGULATIONS AGAINST SUGAR CANE MILL OPERATORS. END LIMITED OFFICIAL USE.

3. MINISTER ALSO STATED WITHIN HEARING OF A FORMER BUSINESS FRIEND THAT HIS WIFE HAD BEEN MAKING LIFE MISERABLE FOR HIM IN THE EVENINGS BECAUSE OF HER PERSISTENT DISPLEASURE OVER THE POLITICAL OFFICE THAT HE WAS FILLING AND THAT WAS TAKING SO MUCH OF HIS TIME. MINISTER'S FRIEND EXPRESSED DOUBT THAT CABINET WOULD ACCEPT RESIGNATION, A VIEW WITH WHICH ECON/CML. COUNSELOR EXPRESSED AGREEMENT. KINTNER

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Message Attributes

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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: golinofr
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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ISecure: 1
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Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 31 MAY 2002
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Review Exemptions: n/a
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Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: PGOV, EIND, TH, (KOSIN, OSOT)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005